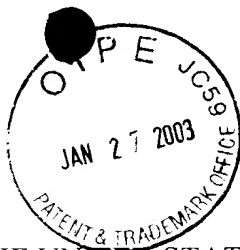


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PATENT APPLICATION

#8/A PB

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

2.3.03

In re Application of:

HIROAKI HOSHI ET AL.

Application No.: 09/916,472

Filed: July 30, 2001

For: IMAGE PICKUP APPARATUS

Examiner: Thanh X. Luu

Group Art Unit: 2878

January 23, 2003

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

RECEIVED  
JAN 23 2003  
TECHNICAL DIVISION 2800

AMENDMENT

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated October 23, 2002, Applicants respectfully request that the above-identified application be amended as follows:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on

January 23, 2003

(Date of Deposit)

John A. Krause (Reg. No. 24,613)

(Name of Attorney for Applicants)

Signature

January 23, 2003

Date of Signature